

ORPHANED LAND ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

JUNE 24th thru 26th, 2002

The Orphaned Land Advisory Committee Meeting was held in Fredericksburg, Virginia on June 24th thru June 26th, 2002. Committee members present were:

Mr. Walter Beck, Virginia Aggregates Association (VAA)
Mr. Earl Robb, Virginia Department of Transportation
Mr. Brian Gano, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Services
Mr. Jon VanSoestbergen, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Mr. Phil Davidson, Mining Industry Representative
Mr. Palmer Sweet, Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy (DMME), Division of Mineral Resources - Chairman
Dr. Lee Daniels, Virginia Tech, Department of Crop and Soil Environmental Sciences

Mr. Conrad Spangler, DMME Division of Mineral Mining (DMM) Director; Mr. Allen Bishop, DMM Project Manager; and Mr. Robert Soebeck, DMM Non-point Source Pollution Coordinator, were present as ex-officio non-voting members and advisors to the Committee.

Mr. MacDonald Hagy, DMM Mine Inspector, was present at the meeting to present the nominations for the DMM/VAA Reclamation Awards Program. Committee members selected Kyanite Mining Corporation's Baker Mountain Mine as the best quarry and overall winner in the DMM/VAA Awards Program and to be nominated for the Interstate Mining Compact Commission and National Association of State Land Reclamationists National Award Program. U. S. Gypsum Company's Locust Cove Mine was also selected as a winner in the best quarry category.

W. L. Hicks' Mine #1 was selected as the non-quarry division winner. T. W. White, Inc.'s T. W. White Mine; West Sand and Gravel Co., Inc.'s Meadow Road Plant; Iluka Resources, Inc.'s Old Hickory Operation; and Luck Stone Corporation's King William Plant were selected for Honorable Mentions.

The Committee by-laws were reviewed. Mr. Earl Robb, was selected as the vice chairman of the Committee. The committee member whose membership term was renewed in 2002 was Mr. Phil Davidson, who has just recently joined the Committee as the Mining Industry Representative.

The Non-Point Source (NPS) grants received from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency through the Virginia Division of Soil and Water Conservation were for the Mitchell Mine Project and continuation of funding for Inventory and Abatement of NPS Pollution from abandoned mineral mine sites in Virginia.

"A" priority sites were discussed and reviewed by the committee.

PowerPoint presentations of selected sites that had safety and/or environmental scores less than 100 were reviewed, as well as all sites with scores over 100. Three hundred and twenty sites were inventoried and prioritized by the Committee this year with the assistance of Radford University and University of Virginia inventory classes. The students entered data into a new automated Internet inventory system. Changes to the system will be made over the next several months to further improve the consistency of the protocol with such varied groups of individuals inventorying the sites.

Tours were made of a site Dr. Daniels is working on involving acid drainage in Stafford County and the Valzinco Mine Orphaned Land Project in Spotsylvania County where reclamation was just completed.

Mr. Palmer Sweet
Chairman